

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12
ACDA-07 MC-02 EB-08 /093 W
-----131533Z 055660 /44

R 130940Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1544
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 0901

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, WZ
SUBJECT: GOS REQUEST FOR SECURITY-RELATED ASSISTANCE

1. SUMMARY. PRIME MINISTER TOLD ME APRIL 12 THAT
INFILTRATION FROM MOZAMBIQUE REMAINS SWAZILAND'S
GREATEST THREAT. HE ASKED USG ASSISTANCE IN IMPROVING
SECURITY OF EASTERN BORDER AND IN TRAINING SWAZILAND
POLICE IN COUNTER-ESPIONAGE. I REPLIED I WOULD REFER
MATTER TO WASHINGTON. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS
USG SURVEY OF GOS NEEDS ON THESE POINTS. END SUMMARY.

2. PRIME MINISTER COLONEL MAPHEVU CALLED ME TO PRIVATE
MEETING APRIL 12 TO EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT SWAZILAND'S
SECURITY IN FAST-MOVING SOUTHERN AFRICAN SCENE. HE
BEGAN BY ASKING FOR LATEST NEWS OF ZAIRE AND THEN SHOWED
ME ARTICLE "KGB RPT KBG: 400 AGENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA?"
IN MARCH 18 ISSUE TO "TO THE POINT," WEEKLY
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NEWSMAGAZINE PUBLISHED IN SANDTON (JOHANNESBURG).
EMBASSY POUCHING COPY OF ARTICLE TO PERRY, AF/S.

3. PRIMIN SAID HE REGARDED US AS GOOD FRIEND OF
SWAZILAND AND WANTED TO KNOW WHAT HELP GOOD FRIENDS WOULD
PROVIDE IN EVENT OF TROUBLE. HE DESCRIBED TROUBLE
AS ALREADY OCCURRING AND AS INVOLVING INFILTRATION INTO

SWAZILAND BY MOZAMBICAN AGENTS. (WHEN I PROBED HIS FEELINGS ABOUT DANGER POSED BY SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT, PRIMIN SAID FLATLY THAT ONLY THING GOS DID NOT LIKE ABOUT SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WAS IOS DISCRIMINATION POLICY, AS HE CALLED IT. GOS PERCEIVES NO THREAT ACROSS SOUTH AFRICAN BORDER.)

4. PRIMIN SAID UK HAD TRAINED SWAZILAND POLICE IN CRIME-RELATED TECHNIQUES BUT HAD NOT PROVIDED TRAINING IN COUNTER-ESPIONAGE. THERE ARE (MOZAMBICAN) SPIES HERE NOW, HE SAID, AND GOS WANTS TO ACT AGAINST THEM.,

5. MEETING CONCLUDED WITH MY PROPOSING TO CABLE PRIMIN'S CONCERN TO WASHINGTON AND TO REPORT TO HIM ANY RESPONSE EMBASSY RECEIVED.

6. COMMENT: PRIMIN'S FOCUS ON THREAT FROM MOZAMBIQUE PARALLELS CONCERN EXPRESSED BY OTHER GOS SPOKESMEN FROM TIME TO TIME. TIMING OF THIS MEETING PROBABLY LINKED TO MOZAMBIQUE-SWAZILAND SECURITY CONFERENCE BEING CONVENED APRIL 13 IN MAPUTO AT GPRM INITIATIVE; GOS ANTICIPATES GPRM WILL DEMAND EXPULSION FROM SWAZILAND OF CERTAIN FORMER MOZAMBIQUE RESIDENTS ALLEGED TO BE ANTI-FRELIMO. GOS CONCERN WITH RESPECT TO MOZAMBICAN INFILTRATION IS TWOFOLD: BORDER SECURITY (NEED FOR IMPROVED PHYSICAL INSTALLATIONS ON MOZAMBIQUE BORDER PLUS NEED FOR HELICOPTERS AND/OR LAND VEHICLES FOR BORDER SURVEILLANCE) AND COUNTER-ESPIONAGE CAPACITY FOR

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SWAZILAND POLICE. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS USG GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO SENDING EXPERT(S) TO SURVEY BOTH ASPECTS OF PROBLEM.

7. WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY RESPONSE, EVEN IF ONLY OF INTERIM NATURE.
WACHOB

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